

09/26/01

Jc961 U.S. PTO

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09-27-01

PTO/SB/05 (03-01)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**UTILITY  
PATENT APPLICATION  
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53 (b))

Attorney Docket No. PIONEER/TGP

First Inventor Thomas, James D

Title Modular Plumbing System

Express Mail Label No. EL561351446US

**APPLICATION ELEMENTS**

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application

**ADDRESS TO:**Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)  
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Applicant claims small entity status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 45]  
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the invention
  - Cross Reference to Related Applications
  - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
  - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
  - Background of the invention
  - Brief Summary of the invention
  - Brief Description of the drawings (if filed)
  - Detailed Description
  - Claim(s)
  - Abstract of the disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 13]
5. ☐ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 2]
- a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
- b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))  
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
- i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**  
signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)  
named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission  
(if applicable, all necessary)
- a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
- b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
- i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
- ii. ☐ paper
- c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

**ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS**

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) ☐ Power of Attorney
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☒ Copies of IDS Citations
13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)  
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122  
(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent
17. ☒ Other: ..... Check.....

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: /

Prior application information:

Examiner

Group Art Unit:

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

**19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**☒ Customer Number or Bar Code Label(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)  
23378  
To the attention of Greg Petersonor ☐ Correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Country

Telephone

Fax

Name (Print/Type)

Thomas G. Peterson

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

45,587

Signature

Date

09-26-01

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

09/26/01  
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PTO/SB/17 (11-00)  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
OMB 0651-0032

# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

## Complete if Known

Application Number	new application
Filing Date	9-26-01
First Named Inventor	Thomas, James D.
Examiner Name	new application
Group Art Unit	new application
Attorney Docket No.	PIONEER/TGP

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)  
1269

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment to:

Deposit Account Number: 50-0954

Deposit Account Name: Bradley Arant Rose & White LLP

☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101	710	201	355	Utility filing fee	355
106	320	206	160	Design filing fee	
107	490	207	245	Plant filing fee	
108	710	208	355	Reissue filing fee	
114	150	214	75	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$)

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

		Extra Claims		Fee from below		Fee Paid	
Total Claims	86	-20**=	66	X	9	=	594
Independent Claims	11	-3**=	8	X	40	=	320
Multiple Dependent						=	

Large Fee Code	Entity Fee (\$)	Small Fee Code	Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description
103	18	203	9	Claims in excess of 20
102	80	202	40	Independent claims in excess of 3
104	270	204	135	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	80	209	40	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2)				1269

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	
116	390	216	195	Extension for reply within second month	
117	890	217	445	Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,390	218	695	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,890	228	945	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	310	219	155	Notice of Appeal	
120	310	220	155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	270	221	135	Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,240	241	620	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,240	242	620	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	440	243	220	Design issue fee	
144	600	244	300	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	710	246	355	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	710	249	355	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179	710	279	355	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)					
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3)					(\$)

## SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Greg Peterson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45587	Telephone	205-521-8084
Signature				Date	9-26-01

## Complete (if applicable)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization of PTO-2038.**

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

**BRADLEY ARANT  
ROSE & WHITE LLP**

Greg Peterson

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September 26, 2001

**VIA EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL561351446US**

**EL561351446US**

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Re: New Patent Application for "MODULAR PLUMBING SYSTEM"**

Applicants: Thomas, James D.  
Application No.: *not yet assigned*  
Filed: September 26, 2001 by Express Mail *herewith*  
Art Unit: *not yet assigned*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the following:

- (1) A new PATENT APPLICATION entitled **MODULAR PLUMBING SYSTEM**, including a Specification, an Abstract, Drawings and Claims;
- (2) An INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT for the above referenced application. No fee or showing is necessary for the Statement as this filing is made within three months of the filing date. We request that the enclosed information be processed, though its submission is not an admission that any reference acts as prior art or that conclusions of any search reports are correct;
- (3) A check for the FEE in the amount of \$1269.00 made payable to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks;
- (4) A Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney;
- (5) A Utility Patent Application Transmittal; and

1/859907.1

Birmingham

Huntsville

Montgomery

Jackson

Washington, D.C.

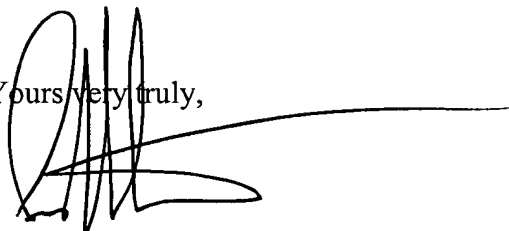
September 26, 2001

Page 2

(6) A Fee Transmittal

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Greg Peterson  
Registration No. 45,587

TGP/tgp  
Enclosures

cc: James D. Thomas (with enclosures)

09064036 090604

September 26, 2001

Page 3

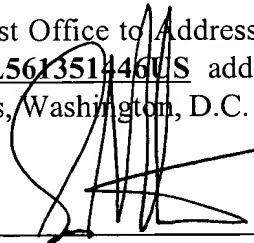
**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the following items are enclosed:

- |    |  |                        |
|----|--|------------------------|
| 1. | Cover letter (including this page)   | <u>3</u> pages total   |
| 2. | Patent application ( <u>26</u> pages of description,<br><u>18</u> pages of claims,<br><u>1</u> page abstract, and<br><u>13</u> pages of drawings), | <u>58</u> pages total  |
| 3. | Information Disclosure Statement   | <u>3</u> pages total   |
| 4. | Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney,  | <u>2</u> pages total   |
| 5. | Fee Transmittal  | <u>1</u> pages total   |
| 6. | Utility Patent Application Transmittal   | <u>1</u> pages total   |
|    | <b>Total 6 Documents</b>   | <b><u>68</u> pages</b> |
| 7. | One check for \$ <u>1269.00</u> filing fee   | 1 Check                |

and are being deposited with the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service in an envelope marked EL561351446US addressed to Box PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on **September 26, 2001**.

Date: 9-26-01

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Peterson  
Registration No. 45,587

**AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE**  
**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

If, after processing the enclosed correspondence, any charges, fees, or sums due remain unpaid in connection with this correspondence, I hereby authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge all such remaining fees, charges, and other sums due to Deposit Account Number 50-0954.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Peterson  
Authorized User of Deposit Account 50-0954